



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 0000053834	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/008089	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 24 July 2003 (24.07.2003)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 14 August 2002 (14.08.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC D21H 17/17, 21/16, 23/04		
Applicant BASF AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.</p>
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 21 January 2004 (21.01.2004)	Date of completion of this report 06 December 2004 (06.12.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

the international application as originally filed
 the description:

pages _____ 1-15 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

the claims:

pages _____ 1-6 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19)
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

the drawings:

pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

contained in the international application in written form.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/fig. _____

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP/08089

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	5 - 6	YES
	Claims	1	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1 - 6	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 6	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

D1: DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 199633 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class A89, AN 1996-324990 XP002265863 & JP 08 146555 A (MITSUBISHI PAPER MILLS LTD) 7 June 1996 (1996-06-07)

1. D1 shows a use of polymers containing vinylamine units ((hydrolysed) "N-vinylformamide vinylamine" as per the application) as fixatives for a sizing agent (i.e. inherently "promoters" (accelerators)) to be used in beater sizing of paper with alkyldiketenes. [N.B. The terms "fixative" and "promoter", as understood by the examiner, both comprise improved sizing action in this context.] Further, the molecular weight of 50,000-150,000 g/mol indicated for the polymers containing vinylamine units used as per D1 also clearly suggests a K-value in the range "from 30 to 150" (or overlapping therewith). We may also note in this connection that no effect can be derived from the examples given in the present application.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore anticipated.

Consequently, the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) are not met.

Since the subject matter of claim 1 is not novel, analysis of inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) is superfluous.

2. The additional features of the dependent claims are either generally known in the field or result from purely routine optimization.

Consequently, these claims, at least, do not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(3).

3. Industrial applicability would appear evidently to have been established (PCT Article 33(4)).
4. A "full-text" translation of D1 is anticipated in the national/regional phase.
5. D1 should likewise be mentioned in the description (in the national/regional phase).